

## REMARKS

### **Rejection of the Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)**

In the Office Action dated 06/06/00, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4 and 6-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as anticipated by MacNaughton (U.S. Patent 5,796,393). The Examiner objected to Claim 5 as being dependent on an invalid claim. The examiner also stated that Claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has thus been amended to include the limitations of the previous base claim and the further limitations of the previous Claim 5. We thus believe that amended Claim 1 and subsequent dependent claims further limiting Claim 1 should now be valid. Claim 2 is amended to avoid repetition. Claims 3-4 are unchanged. Claim 5 is cancelled. Claims 6-9 are unchanged. Claim 10 is amended to have the same sentence structure as Claim 1. Claim 11 is amended only to correct formatting. Claim 12 and Claim 13 are amended, with minor changes, to conform with the amendment to Claim 1.

Claim 14 has been amended to include the limitations of the previous Claim 1 and the further limitations of previous Claim 5. We thus believe that amended Claim 14 and subsequent dependent claims further limiting Claim 14 should now be valid. Claim 15 is amended to correct antecedent basis from Claim 14. Claims 16 and 17 are unchanged. Claims 18-20 are amended, with minor changes to conform with the amendment to Claim 14.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and objections is requested. Allowance is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on Friday, August 04, 2000.

  
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8/4/00  
Date

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